News Release



Shelby County Office of Preparedness Emergency Operations Center Dale Lane, Director Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Shelby County Mayor

www.stafysafeshelby.us

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For Immediate Release

January 5, 2016

Evening Update

New Information since the Last News Release

- No reports of major damage caused by high water
- Firefighters, law enforcement officers and Shelby County Office of Preparedness staff warned occupants of 40 homes and businesses today about the threat of high water in their neighborhoods near the Mississippi River and its tributaries
- Since the flood preparations began on December 29, emergency responders have personally visited approximately 110 homes and businesses to remind occupants about the rising water
- Rodney Baber Park on James Road, just east of McLean, was closed due to high water from the Wolf River
- High water forced the removal of three horses from a stable on North Watkins near Old Millington Road
- David Purkey, Assistant Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security and Deputy Commissioner of the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, will be at the Shelby County Office of Preparedness Emergency Operations Center tomorrow morning at 10:45 to receive a status report about the flood preparations

Current Conditions in Shelby County

- All main roads are open
- No major damage to homes or businesses in Memphis and Shelby County

The Mississippi River is above flood stage of 34 Feet

- Mississippi River Level: 38.3 feet
- Mississippi River Crest: 40.5 feet expected Friday, January 8, 2016

Flood Forecast Maps

Go to <u>www.StaySafeShelby.us</u>

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Flood Response Efforts

- Shelby County Office of Preparedness Emergency Operations Center is open 24 hours
- Representatives from fire, police, public works, health department and shelter support agencies are staffing the emergency operations center
- Fire, police and office of preparedness staff continue round-the-clock visits to neighborhoods prone to flooding in these ZIP Code areas:

38053-Woodstock-Millington Area 38103-Downtown Memphis 38105-North Memphis 38106-South Memphis 38107-North Memphis 38108-North Memphis 38109-Westwood 38116-Whitehaven 38127-Frayser, Northaven, Shelby Forest 38128-Frayser and Raleigh

Current High Water Area Threats

- Downtown in the Harbor Town neighborhood on Mud Island-Water in yards and outdoor storage areas
- Island Place East
- Running River Place
- River Landing Drive
- Harbor Isle Circle North
- Marina Cottage Cove
- Unincorporated Shelby County-near the Frayser area-Billion Road at Old Cuba-Benjestown Road-high water is in fields and yards

Closed Roads and Other Areas Due to High Water

- Second Street between Mud Island drive and the Stiles Treatment Center
- Island Place East
- Billion Road at Old Cuba-Benjestown Road
- Boat ramps at Greenbelt Park and Shelby Forest
- Rodney Baber Park on James Road

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Flood Water Prevention Tips from the Shelby County Health Department

- Limit contact with flood water due to potentially elevated levels of contaminants, including raw sewage and other hazardous materials
- Avoid wading, swimming, playing, or boating in floodwaters. It only takes six inches of moving flood water to carry a person away
- If you do come into contact with flood water, immediately wash your hands with disinfecting soap
- Early symptoms from exposure to contaminated flood water may include upset stomach, intestinal problems, headache and other flu-like discomfort seek immediate medical attention
- Do not allow pets to walk through or drink flood water

(End of Update)